



Financial Management Career Program

by Mr Ron Stuewe

Have You Subscribed to the FMCP List Server? Ever wonder why you don't get timely information sent through command channels? If you want current information on FMCP announcements or changes, you should subscribe to the FMCP list server. Subscribers to the FMCP list server will automatically receive an Email message whenever new information is disseminated.

Current FMCP plans are to use the list server for future unusual job vacancy announcements, career-broadening opportunities, education and training opportunities, and other FMCP-related information that impact registrants.

By subscribing to the list server, you will receive timely notifications of important events (almost at the same time your MAJCOM/FM receives the message). Subscribing to the list server requires one EMail sent to: majordomo@listsrv.afpc.randolph.af.mil. Only two words are required in the body of the message: Subscribe FMCP. You don't even have to enter a subject. Those two simple steps are all that it takes to get on the list and receive a message confirming your action.

Registration and GEOLOC Changes. By the time this issue hits the streets, people eligible to register in the FMCP should be able to do so using the WWW. This new capability will only be available for employees at bases using the new automated Benefits and Entitlements System under PALACE Compass. Current registrants should also be able to change their personal availability codes (GEOLOCs) using the WWW without going through the local civilian personnel office.

GEOLOC changes input using the WWW will delete all previous codes. This means that changing one code will also require typing in the codes that you want to remain. The option of submitting an AF Form 2675 to register or change GEOLOCs remains.

Unfortunately, we will lose the capability of using GEOLOCs when the USAF switches to the new Resumix system and announcements. The good news is that a new Civilian Automatic Notification System (CANS) is being developed. CANS uses list server techniques and will send registrants an EMail notification whenever a new vacancy meets certain criteria.

While CANS will definitely help, registrants must take an active role by submitting their name for consideration for announcements after receiving notifications.

More WWW Improvements. The FMCP WWW site now has a Personal Records Review area that allows registrants to see certain portions of their official file. The site now allows registrants to review their training history file, career program registration and GEOLOCs, award history, education level, total person score, behavior inventory score as well as individual competencies, and penalty/restriction information.

Based on the number of errors found in personnel records, registrants should review their official file at periodic intervals.

Career Enhancement Plan (CEP) and the USAF Civilian Competitive Development Program (CCDP). The annual call for new CEPs normally is sent out in the March/April timeframe and only to people registered in a career program. Registrants and their supervisors indicate the training requested for the following fiscal year. By signing the CEP, supervisors indicate willingness to release the employee for training if quotas are obtained.

For FMCP registrants, the CEP is only used to identify potential candidates for Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Management Development Courses (MDC) and other short-term (typically 1 week) courses designed to enhance the management and leadership attributes of financial management employees.

Your local civilian personnel flight (CPF) inputs the CEP information into the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System (DCPDS) in the May/June timeframe. Each career program extracts the requested courses from the DCPDS and uses that information to match available courses to requested courses.

An important point for registrants in acquisition positions to remember is that the CEP is in addition to the Individual Development Plan (IDP) which you may also prepare. The big difference is that career programs have no access to IDP data. Unless the course is listed on the CEP, the FMCP will never call to see if you are available for a course.

The CEP is no longer used to identify candidates for long-term leadership and development training. The CCDP process identifies candidates for Professional Military Education (PME); long-term academic programs; long-term experiential programs (such as Executive Leadership Course and Excellence in Government

Continued on Next Page

Financial Management Career Program (Continued)

Fellows); GS-15 assignments; and short-term GS-15 executive development courses. Go to <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cp/guide/default.htm> to review the Civilian Training and Development Guide that contains information on courses, grade levels, and prerequisites to help complete the CEP. It also links to the AF Wide Civilian Competitive Development Program Nominating Instructions.

Tuition Assistance (TA) Changes. The new USAF Civilian Tuition Assistance Policy became effective on 1 Oct 99. Under the new policy, the USAF will provide a maximum of 75% of tuition costs not to exceed \$184.50 per semester hour or \$124.50 per quarter hour and is limited to \$3,500 per fiscal year.

This new policy does not apply to training and education mandated by law, regulation or agency requirement including tuition assistance for acquisition personnel under the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) mandated by DoD policy or employees covered by AFI 36-602, Civilian Intern Programs.

For more information on tuition assistance, go to http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cp/guide/sec_2.htm.

